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MAR 29 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Applicant: Chakrabarti) Art Unit: 2176
)
Serial No.: 09/523,639) Examiner: Nguyen
)
Filed: March 10, 2000) AM9-98-128
)
For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DISTRIBUTED)**
AUTONOMOUS MAINTENANCE OF)
BIDIRECTIONAL HYPERLINK METADATA ON)
THE WEB AND SIMILAR HYPERMEDIA)
REPOSITORY)
March 28, 2005
750 B STREET, Suite 3120
San Diego, CA 92101

RULE 132 DECLARATION

We, Soumen Chakrabarti, Byron E. Dom, David A. Gibson, Kevin S. McCurley, and Martin Henk van den Berg, declare as follows:

We are the original inventors of the invention claimed in the above-captioned application.

As evidenced by the enclosed IBM document entitled "CLEVER Browsing", bearing a facsimile date of August 17, 1998, the present invention was conceived by us prior to 1999.

Specifically, using the limitations of Claim 1 as an example and referring to the enclosed document, we conceived of a user computer (page 2, left-hand block) and a data input device associated with the user computer ("user clicks on link" clearly indicates a mouse-type input device). A Web server communicating with the user computer is also indicated in the figure on page 2 ("browser sends "from s1/p1.htm" to server"). The figure on page 3 entitled "WBI-based Architecture" also shows these components.

The text on page 2 also indicates that the server ("s2") is invoked when a link s2/p2 on a page s1/p1 is clicked, and that the server s2 logs the source URL s1/p1. Page 5 likewise refers to links tables that are kept at servers around the world. This corresponds to the inlinks to at least one Web page associated with the Web server. That tables may be used is mentioned on page 5.

1053-39.DEC

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March 17, 2005

Page 2

PATENT
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As set forth on page 3, an applet at the user's browser ("user logic means at the user computer") uses HTTP to update a list of pages pointing to the current page. The use of HTTP plainly indicates communication with a Web server, and the fact that the applet is disclosed to update a list of pages pointing to a current page clearly corresponds to accessing the inlinks at the server to facilitate generating a list of outlinks of the inlinks, for accessing the outlinks (page 4, referred to as "back links"). Page 6 refers to the concept of inlinks and outlinks as "interactive bidirectional exploration".

In addition, the enclosed document indicates, and we hereby declare as a matter of first hand knowledge, that the invention was reduced to practice in 1998. Specifically, page 4 indicates that a "demo" was in existence as of the date of the enclosed document, and page 6 indicates that "several users are already addicted". We have also reviewed our source code logs to confirm that the invention of Claim 1 was implemented in computer code in 1998.

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful, false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Soumen Chakrabarti [date]

Byron E. Dom [date]

David A. Gibson [date]

March 18, 2005

CASE NO.: AM9-98-128
Serial No.: 09/523,639
March 21, 2005
Page 2

PATENT
Filed: March 10, 2000

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Soumen Chakrabarti [date]

Byron E. Dom [date]

David A. Gibson [date]

 21/3/05

Kevin S. McCurley [date]

Martin Henk van den Berg [date]

1053-39.DEC

FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078

(TUE) MAR 29 2005 10:58/ST. 10:55/No. 6833031691 P 9

FROM :

FAX NO. :

Mar. 18 2005 04:53PM P1

FAX TO: 001-619-338-8078
ATTN: JOHN ROGITZ

CASE NO.: AM9-98-128
Serial No.: 09/523,639
March 18, 2005
Page 2

PATENT
Filed: March 10, 2000

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Soumen Chakrabarti
2005/03/18

Soumen Chakrabarti [date]

*see other signature
pages*

Byron E. Dorn [date]

David A. Gibson [date]

Kevin S. McCurley [date]

Martin Henk van den Berg [date]

1053-39-DEC

FROM ROGITZ 619 338 8078
PA PHLU HLU LHS

(TUE) MAR 29 2005 10:58/ST. 10:55/No. 6833031691 P 10
10:6508137081 MHR 16'05 18:07 NO.002 P.02

CASE NO.: AMP-98-128

Serial No.: 09/523,639

March 16, 2005

Page 3

PATENT
Filed: March 10, 2000

3/16/05

Kevin S. McCurley [date]

John L. Rogitz
Martin Henk van den Berg [date]

Respectfully submitted,

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JLR:jg

1053-39.DBC

CASE NO.: AM9-98-128
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Page 2

PATENT

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Soumen Chakrabarti [date]

Byron E. Dom [date] David A. Gibson [date]

Kevin S. McCurley 3-16-2005
Kevin S. McCurley
1053-39.DRC